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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1905.

Shall courtesy be done only to the
 rich and only by the rich? In good
 breeding, which differs, if at all, from
 high breeding, only as it gracefully
 remembers the rights of others, rather
 than gracefully insists on its own
 rights, I discern no special connection
 with wealth or birth; but rather that
 it lies in human nature itself and is
 due from all men toward all men.
 —Carlyle.

The Duello.

In September, 1890, a death resulted at
 the Virginia Military Institute from a
 fight which took place under circum-
 stances almost identical with those of
 the lamentable occurrence at the United
 States Naval Academy.

A court of inquiry was convened to
 ascertain and report the facts and ex-
 press an opinion. The court was em-
 phatic in the expression of the opinion
 that the fight ought not to have oc-
 curred, and that its occurrence was due
 to a false code of honor, which the ex-
 isting corps of cadets found in vogue,
 and received and accepted from their
 predecessors. The facts elicited by the
 court clearly and fully indicated that in
 proceedings under the "code of honor"
 scrupulous regard had ever been had
 towards securing fair play; that combats
 between cadets unequally matched in size
 or strength were not permitted to take
 place; that every practical precaution
 had been taken to prevent serious bodily
 harm, and that the death of the cadet
 in question was accidental, notwith-
 standing. Superintendent Shipp issued a
 general order, in which he said:

With the solemn memory of this fatal
 fight fresh in the mind of all, the super-
 intendent makes an earnest appeal to
 cadets, to rise to the dignity of true
 manhood, to discard the false codes and
 standards, and to fear nothing, except to
 do wrong. Quarrels and differences
 among gentlemen arise from real or
 fancied insult, offense or injury. If real,
 a proper resentment is natural, until due
 amends are made and satisfaction is
 made. But this resentment should be an
 exhibition of displeasure and not of pas-
 sion. The parties to a quarrel, mutually
 smarting under a sense of injury and
 wrong, are in no condition to make a
 calm, judicial review of the case, or to
 decide on a difference, nor to see and pur-
 sue the course which Christian charity
 and gentlemanly courtesy make obliga-
 tory upon all. Hence has arisen the
 usage, now almost universal among
 gentlemen and cadets, of organizing a
 board of honor, or a committee, of arbi-
 tration, to whom the differences that
 arise among gentlemen are referred for
 adjustment; and "he who declines to
 abide the judgment of such friendly
 court and to make honorable amends
 for any wrongs which he may thus be
 adjudged to have committed, puts him-
 self beyond the pale of gentlemanly
 association," showing that he prefers the
 satisfaction of passion, rather than of rea-
 son, and waives the right of amends
 and satisfaction. To quote the words of a
 distinguished soldier, "the civilization and
 refinement of the present age emphati-
 cally condemn personal encounters be-
 tween gentlemen; gentlemen do not de-
 liberately engage in pugilistic encounters,
 for many years it required great
 moral courage to decline a challenge to
 personal combat—courage of a far high-
 er order than that displayed by the
 parties to the duel. But this is no
 longer the case; enlightenment and civi-
 lization ever sustains him who declines
 such an encounter, and emphatically
 condemns him who engages in it. There
 is no longer any excuse for gentlemen
 who are unable to settle the same social
 laws, to resort to the use of physical
 force, to settle their differences by blows.
 To batter and be battered may display
 courage, though of a very low order,
 such as is possessed by the lowest grade
 of men, but it constitutes no real intelli-
 gent or a wrong. Frank apology and
 substantial reparation for any wrong
 committed constitute the only atone-
 ment consistent with the honor and courage
 of the gentleman." With this procla-
 mation of the subject, the superin-
 tendent hopes will convince the under-
 standing, and enlist the co-operation of
 all in effecting a reform which will re-
 flect honor upon the institute and upon
 the corps of cadets. The attention of all
 concerned is directed to sections 17, 18,
 19, of the academic regulations. All of-
 ficers, cadet officers, and non-com-
 missioned, and sentinels, will be held to
 strict account in the enforcement of the
 regulations for the suppression of fighting
 in the barracks and on the grounds of
 the institute; and any cadet known to have
 been a party to a prearranged combat
 will be dismissed.

This is wholesome and manly doctrine
 for youths. Personal difficulties are
 sometimes unavoidable, but they are cer-
 tainly not to be encouraged by a so-
 called code of honor which compels a
 man to settle his quarrels with another
 by brutal combat, or else be branded a
 coward. Surely our institutions of
 learning, which are designed to teach
 good morals and moral courage, cannot
 stand for such a code.

One of the most pathetic stories in
 American history is the account of the
 duel between Burr and Hamilton. Ham-
 iltion was opposed to duelling, and he left
 a written statement in which he set
 forth his "most cogent reasons" there-
 for. They were thus enumerated:

"First—My religious and moral prin-
 ciples are strongly opposed to the prac-
 tice of duelling, and it would ever give
 me pain to shed the blood of a fellow-

creature in a private combat forbidden
 by the laws.

"Second—My wife and children are ex-
 tremely dear to me, and my life is of
 the utmost importance to them in vari-
 ous views.

"Third—I feel a sense of obligation to-
 ward my creditors, who, in case of ac-
 cident to me, by the forced sale of my
 property, may be in some degree sufferers.
 I did not think myself my first duty
 as a man of probity, likely to expose them
 to hazard.

"Fourth—I am conscious of no ill-will
 to Colonel Burr distinct from political
 opposition, which, as I trust, has pro-
 ceeded from pure and upright motives.
 "Last, I shall hazard much and can
 possibly gain nothing, by the issue of the
 interview."

And he added:
 "I have resolved, if our interview is
 conducted in the usual manner, and if
 I please God to give me the opportunity,
 to resist, to throw away my first fire,
 and I have thoughts even of reserving
 my second fire and thus giving a double
 opportunity to pause and reflect."
 But the opportunity was not given to
 him. Burr's aim was sure; his first shot
 went into the vitals of Hamilton, and
 the brilliant man fell with a mortal
 wound, an unwilling victim of the code
 of honor which he could not escape. It
 was a cruel and remorseless code, com-
 pelling the obedience even of those whose
 consciences revolted against it. By and
 by an enlightened public sentiment
 abolished it, and shall the schools in
 which our youth are trained still cling
 to the unrighteous tradition? The code
 which formerly existed at the V. M. I.
 was long since abolished, and the ex-
 ample should be followed by all other
 institutions where it is in vogue.

Need of a Building Inspector.

In the news columns of The Times-
 Dispatch of yesterday a prominent build-
 er was quoted as having said that he
 had built many houses in this city during
 the past few years which he would be
 afraid to pull down, for the reason that
 if he should do so, the walls next to them
 would not stand. The argument used
 against the creation of the office of
 building inspector is that we have no
 "building code" under which such an
 official would operate. But that argu-
 ment proves nothing except that we
 should have such a code, and have it in
 operation as soon as possible. If there
 were any doubt on the subject, the testi-
 mony of the builder from whom we
 have quoted removes it.

The ordinance creating the office of
 Inspector and Board of Public Safety is,
 in part at least, a "building code." Among other things, it provides that "no
 wall, structure, building, part or parts
 thereof, shall be built, constructed, alter-
 ed, repaired or removed in the city of
 Richmond, except in conformity with the
 provisions of this ordinance"; that every
 person desiring to erect or alter any
 building shall apply to the inspector for
 a permit, and in his written application
 shall state clearly and fully the work
 contemplated, giving the location and
 the estimated cost thereof; and when the
 inspector requires it, plans and speci-
 fications must be furnished. After in-
 spection of the proposed location and
 plans and specifications, the inspector is
 required to grant the permit with the
 least possible delay, not exceeding ten
 days, provided there is compliance with
 this and other existing ordinances in
 Richmond; but, if there is not compli-
 ance, he must refuse to grant the permit
 until the plans are altered to suit. Ap-
 peal may be taken from the decision of the
 inspector to the Board of Public Safety,
 to be composed of the Mayor, the city
 engineer and the chief of the fire depart-
 ment. A special tax is to be levied on
 building permits, ranging from one to
 twenty-five dollars, according to the cost
 of the work, and this, we imagine, will
 go far towards defraying the expenses
 of the inspection system.

This may be an imperfect code, but it
 is better than no code at all, and it can
 be perfected in time. Certain it is that
 it is sufficiently comprehensive, when ex-
 ecuted by a competent inspector, to pre-
 vent the erection of unsafe buildings.
 The ordinance should be adopted.

A Frenchman On American Manners.

One of the most striking features of
 American civilization is the faculty with
 which foreigners size it up. To the itin-
 erant tutor, Briton or Frenchman, our
 life is, as an open primer wherein every
 runner may glance and read. The observ-
 ant alien wastes no time in the labori-
 ous collection and sifting of evidence,
 perceiving the needlessness of it. A week
 in New York, or some other equally re-
 presentative centre, is all that his astute-
 ness demands. Thoroughly equipped by a
 round of metropolitan "lights," he sails
 back to the old country, and becomes an
 authority on the manners and morals,
 the customs and culture of benighted
 America.

A case in point is M. Huret, of the
 Paris Figaro. M. Huret prepared himself
 for the task of exposing America far
 more faithfully than some other Euro-
 peans, his stay over here running to
 the surprising total of some months. The
 length of his visit merely reveals the
 strength of the Huret character, because
 there can be little doubt that he had a
 bad time of it. He lived apparently in a
 continuous state of moral recoil, in the
 midst of which he had constant occasion
 to jot down damning observations like
 these:

"The American surprises you with his
 contempt for you. On the cars or rail-
 ways, for instance, you feel the shoes
 of the man behind you in your back.
 Gentlemen chew tobacco or gum and
 spit everywhere. America has only one
 law, to resort to the use of physical
 force, to settle their differences by blows.
 To batter and be battered may display
 courage, though of a very low order,
 such as is possessed by the lowest grade
 of men, but it constitutes no real intelli-
 gent or a wrong. Frank apology and
 substantial reparation for any wrong
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 regulations for the suppression of fighting
 in the barracks and on the grounds of
 the institute; and any cadet known to have
 been a party to a prearranged combat
 will be dismissed.

"First—My religious and moral prin-
 ciples are strongly opposed to the prac-
 tice of duelling, and it would ever give
 me pain to shed the blood of a fellow-

and drink a difficult feat for one not
 versed in American ways, likely to in-
 flict considerable damage on the human
 windpipe. While travelling, we make it a
 point to plant our tribes, with simple
 firmness, in the backs of any foreign
 Johnnies that have the hardihood to
 draw near. If we dislike a man, it is
 our naive ambition to beat him, rather
 than to summon him to a duel in opera
 bouffe, where to do an injury to one's
 opponent is to sin unpardonably against
 good manners and the code of French
 honor. After the combat, licking or lick-
 ing, we shake hands, apply beefsteak to
 our wounded parts, and go our several
 ways.

The opportunity to see ourselves as
 others see us is always devoutly to be
 wished for. Mr. Robert Burns, as is well
 known, anticipated us in the expression
 of this pleasing sentiment by a century
 or more. M. Huret, in telling Americans
 candidly what he thinks of them, has
 availed the world's knowledge and con-
 tributed his mite to the gavelty of na-
 tions. We thank him. He could now in-
 crease our indebtedness by telling us de-
 finitely in what social circles he gathered
 his general data. Those who might natu-
 rally conclude that M. Huret, while with
 us, dallied overlong in the New York
 Bowers, may deem their line of reasoning
 upset by Parisian's reference to a Fifth
 Avenue restaurant. It is always well to
 bear in mind, however, that in these
 degenerate days, many a man with a
 Bowers training is exuberantly wielding
 a Sherry pocket book.

Give the Blues An Armory.

There is no military organization in
 the land with a better record for conduct
 and honorable service than the Richmond
 Light Infantry Blues. The organization
 came into existence in 1793 and has never
 failed to respond to the call to duty.
 In war or in peace, on the field of battle,
 in time of riot or disorder, upon oc-
 casions of dress parade, the battalion has
 always given a splendid account of itself.
 It deserves due consideration on account
 of service, and it deserves something
 more for the high character of its mem-
 bers and for its handsome appearance
 in public. No matter what the occasion,
 the Blues battalion is the pride of Rich-
 mond. Yet the Council has never taken
 sufficient pride in the battalion to give
 it an armory. The lot in which the
 men meet for drill is without con-
 veniences, not to speak of comforts, and
 when the men have returned from a tire-
 some and dusty march, there is no place
 in the "armory," so-called, for them to
 get a bath. It is a reflection upon the
 organization, and it is a reflection upon
 the community that this military organi-
 zation should be treated with so little
 consideration. If the Blues battalion were
 maintained for the pleasure and benefit
 of the men, the case would be different.
 But it exists for the benefit of Richmond.
 The men are subject to duty in all di-
 rections, but Richmond has the first
 claim upon their services, and Richmond
 should give them a decent and desirable
 armory.

The Constitution declares that "a well
 regulated militia, composed of the body
 of the people, trained to arms, is the
 proper, natural and safe defense" of our
 social, economic and governmental in-
 stitutions; and, again, that "in all cases
 the military should be under strict sub-
 ordination to and governed by the civil
 power." Therefore it is the part of
 government to provide proper equipment
 and a suitable place for the perform-
 ance of drills and necessary assemblies.
 The battalion is not able to build an
 armory on its own account, and even
 if it were, it should not be required to
 do so. The men give their service; the
 government is required to provide the
 conveniences. It is a matter of duty and
 business to do so.

The city is now giving the Blues \$1,600
 a year rent money. This sum would go
 far towards paying the interest on a
 sum sufficient to build a first-class ar-
 mory. We hope that the Council will
 see its way soon to make the necessary
 appropriation, and we believe that in
 so doing it would carry out the wishes
 of the community. Other military or-
 ganizations in the city have very prop-
 erly been provided with an armory. Why
 should the Blues be neglected?

A Wrecker As An Illustration.

Sir,—In your leading editorial to-day on
 "Municipal Operation," you say: "It is
 inconceivable that any private corpora-
 tion, owning so valuable a property as
 the Richmond city gas works, would
 have failed to make suitable provisions
 for the works, to keep them in thorough
 repair and equal to the demands of their
 customers," etc. How can you make
 good this position in face of the fact
 that under the Fisher regime our street
 railway system and service were a dis-
 grace to the city of Richmond? It is
 notorious that suitable provision was not
 made for the maintenance of the property
 in question, and that it was not "kept
 in thorough repair and equal to the de-
 mands" of our people.

I am not an advocate of municipal
 ownership, but as an interested reader
 of what is being said on the subject,
 seemingly desirous to see both sides fairly
 presented.

Richmond, November 8, 1905.

We are surprised that our intelligent
 correspondent should bring forward as
 an illustration the conduct of a man who
 was a wrecker and not a promoter. It
 goes without saying that we were refer-
 ring to corporations whose policy is to
 preserve a valuable property and not to
 destroy it. It is still inconceivable to us
 that such a corporation, owning so valu-
 able a property as the Richmond city
 gas works, would have failed to "make
 suitable provision" for the works, as the
 superintendent says the City Council
 failed to do, to keep them in thorough
 repair and equal to the demands of cus-
 tomers.

The Farmer and the Negro.

It is an interesting coincidence that
 while a convention is being held in the
 South to consider the question of immi-
 gration and labor, a colored delegate to
 the meeting in Richmond of the Virginia
 Business League should have said in the
 meeting that the scarcity of negro labor
 in the South is due in part to the fact

that a large number of negroes are buy-
 ing small farms for themselves, and
 hence are not available as farm laborers.
 Whatever the cause, the negroes are
 leaving the farms and the Southern
 farmers cannot depend upon the negro
 race exclusively for labor. Something
 must be done to get other laborers, and
 it must be done soon, or Southern agri-
 culture will suffer.

As for the negroes, we do not resent
 the idea that they are disposed to leave
 the farms in order to better their condi-
 tion. If any are able to purchase and
 cultivate farms on their own account;
 if any are able to engage in trade; if
 any are able to engage successfully in
 professional work, we have no quarrel
 with them. No fair-minded and liberal-
 minded white man is willing to hold the
 negro in subjection in order that he may
 have a servant. It is a narrow, bigoted,
 ungenerous and un-Christian view to
 take. We are for a fair field and equal
 opportunities under the law to all, that
 every man may succeed as well as his
 talents, his energy and his character
 allow. In such a race, under such cir-
 cumstances, some will outstrip others.
 There will be rich men and poor men; there
 will be masters and servants under the
 fairest possible conditions; but the condi-
 tions should be fair, leaving the conse-
 quences to take care of themselves.
 If the negro wants to leave the farm
 and seek other occupation, it is his own
 affair, and peace go with him. But the
 farmers of the South must learn to get
 along without him.

The Jews of Russia.

The movement in Richmond to raise
 a fund to relieve the distress of the Jews
 of Russia will appeal to the tender
 mercies and generosity of the public. The
 persecution of these unfortunate people
 by blood thirsty Russians seems to have
 become a savage craze and men, women
 and children have been butchered without
 mercy. Those who have escaped have
 been deprived of their property and the
 means of support and their condition is
 most deplorable. The winter has set in
 and unless liberal relief is forthcoming,
 many must die from cold and hunger. As
 Dr. Calish has said, too much cannot
 be contributed and while a thousand dol-
 lars has already been raised in Richmond
 as much more as the people will contrib-
 ute will be gratefully received.

The Danger of Riches.

(Selected for The Times-Dispatch.)
 "How hardly shall they that have
 riches enter into the kingdom of God."
 St. Luke xviii. 24.

Is it easy, then, for poor people to
 enter the kingdom of God? Our Lord
 did not say so. It is always difficult
 to enter into that kingdom. It is not
 entered by wealth, nor is it entered by
 poverty; these are but external circum-
 stances. It is the heart alone which
 enters there.

We cannot enter into the reasoning of
 this young ruler's mind; but of one thing
 we may be sure, there was much good
 in him, for "Jesus, beholding him, loved
 him." His youth, his beauty, his mod-
 esty, his sincerity, all appealed to the
 Master; he looked upon him, seeing his
 whole heart and his motives, and yet
 "loved him." If the Lord could have
 saved him this test, He would! If He
 could have thrown wide open the gate
 into the kingdom He would have done
 so. But that kingdom has its laws.
 Christ represented those laws, obeyed
 them, insisted upon them; therefore, this
 comely young man would not be allowed
 to enter until he, too, had conformed
 to them. Not his money, nor his station,
 only himself could squeeze through that
 "strait and narrow gate."

It was a critical moment for the Lord
 Himself. He had to set precedents in
 His own church, by which all succeeding
 Christian churches and institutions should
 regulate their actions. Was it not tempta-
 tion to attach openly a millionaire to a
 cause held in social contempt? Might
 not one rich man bring other rich men,
 and so create a fashion?

But there can be no fashion in cruel-
 ty. Calvary can never be a custom of the
 day. We do not, cannot, enter that
 kingdom by money or wit, by genius,
 learning, pedigree, or aught that is in-
 cidental or external. Only by the way
 of the cross do men pass into Christ's
 kingdom.

This disciple was troubled. They
 thought a great opportunity had been
 lost. If this were to be the policy of the
 Master, salvation was simply impossible.
 How could the kingdom go on without
 such people as this rich young man?
 "Who, then, can be saved?" they ask
 with wonderment.

Our Lord explained the whole question
 in one word by saying, "Children, they
 that trust not in riches." There is no
 harm in riches of themselves. They may
 be instruments of the greatest possible
 good. In right hands the world is better
 and happier for a Christian administration
 of wealth. The Lord is not abusing
 or condemning riches; but He is pointing
 out that men may trust in their riches,
 may rely on their power, idolize their
 own possessions; thus, be unwilling and
 unfit to take the step which leads from
 the material to the spiritual.

Our Lord did not say it was impos-
 sible; he said it was hard. And is it not?
 Let those answer who all their lives have
 used their money to make life easy,
 minister to their pride or comfort. The
 very thing they have trusted in now
 makes their upward progress "hard."

Riches do not refer alone to money.
 There are riches of many kinds—centres
 of pride, of vanity, of self-trust and
 idolatry, of pleasure and self-interest.
 The whole fabric must be shaken to its
 base, torn up by its foundations, ere
 Christ will begin to build.

Notice the deceitfulness of all kinds of
 riches. Riches may corrupt the best and
 purest of you. Take care! "The deceitful-
 ness of riches" is drawing away the soul
 from its eternal destiny. Beware of
 both; shun all and everything that hin-
 ders in that supreme struggle for entrance
 into His kingdom.

You cannot bring your riches with you

into the kingdom, if you are trusting to
 them. But if you offer them wholly to
 Christ and will sanctify them to His use,
 bring them all.

You cannot carry your intellectual
 pride with you, unless you will conse-
 crate your intellect to the study of the
 Cross; then bring it all.

You can bring with you nothing of the
 nature of patronage to Christ. You
 cannot compliment or bias Him. He lies
 beyond any such range. We can only
 teach Him by His own way of sacrifice,
 self-immolation and transformation—a
 great mystery that to be put into words,
 yet it may become a blessed and con-
 solous spiritual experience.

Blessed is he to whom that experience
 is a glad reality.

In connection with the cordial recep-
 tion which President Roosevelt received
 in the South, the Journal of Education
 remarks that in this era of good feeling
 it is a good time for the North to greet
 the first great book publishing company
 of the South—the B. F. Johnson Company,
 of Richmond; that they have been
 making such acceptable books that they
 are used in the North as well as in the
 South. Our contemporary well says that
 America's future domestic condition de-
 pends in no small degree upon the use of
 those text books in all sections that
 show no prejudice, positive or negative.

"The West Virginia Hills," it goes on,
 "ought to be sung from Maine to Ore-
 gon," "Dixie" ought to keep pace with
 "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." In
 Boston and Charleston. It was never
 more true than in this connection, that if
 we train up the children in the patriotic
 way in which they should go, they will
 not depart from it. The South and the
 North must dwell together for all time.
 There will never be another thought of
 disunion. It is equally true that if one
 section suffers all sections will suffer
 with it. The greatest of all needs is
 that we should all dwell together in
 unity.

We are pleased to know that our Rich-
 mond publishing house is doing such ex-
 cellent missionary work.

The continued silence of Abdul, of Tur-
 key, is a trifle ominous. The expected
 yielding attitude on his part is a bit
 slow about asserting itself. Meanwhile,
 he has been buying guns of approved
 shooting capacity and improving the for-
 tifications of the Bosphorus. Turkey
 has some 600,000 soldiers of very respect-
 able fighting abilities, which it may be
 fairly assumed that the Powers are not
 over anxious to run up against. But
 who is the Porte's back-staffer? Is
 this another case of W. Hohenzollern?

"Mr. Shonts Speaks on the Canal,"
 says a headline. Is the canal far
 enough along for Mr. Shonts to be "on"
 it? Or does it merely mean that Mr.
 Shonts is "on" the canal? Isn't "in"
 the proper preposition for canals, any-
 way?

At last the exclusion of Poe from the
 Hall of Fame is sensibly accounted for.
 The Houston Post explains that it was all
 due to a little mistake of Chancellor Mc-
 Cracken, who was under the impression
 that Edgar Allen was the author of
 that Poe amendment.

Boss George Cox, of Cincinnati, an-
 nounces that he is out of politics. The
 necessary arrangements were fixed up
 by the people with no trouble whatever
 to George.

Common fairness compels us to admit
 that the life insurance president has
 proved himself, beyond cavil, a good
 father, a kindly uncle and a great grand-
 father.

Tom Lawson, of Bawson, is said to be
 suing a Michigan gentleman for \$30,000
 damages for libel. But would it be pos-
 sible to libel Tom as badly as that?

Granting that angels are Biblically rep-
 resented as men, what sex is commonly
 attributed to spirits from the other place?

What will our magazines do for read-
 ing matter in the millennium, when there
 is no longer anybody to expose?

The military fence which Russia is
 planning to throw about Poland will not
 be constructed from native Poles.

It now seems to be pertinent to inquire
 what we are going to do with our ex-
 bosses.

It takes a pretty skillful mechanic to
 repair a busted political machine.

The czar has hitherto escaped being
 called the very old Nick.

The Democratic Party, Not Dead.

The World recently asked if the Demo-
 cratic party was dying. It is very far
 from dead.
 Roosevelt's plurality of 565,000 in Pen-
 nsylvania has been overturned and the
 Democratic candidate for State Treasurer
 is elected by 166,000.
 Roosevelt's plurality of 255,000 in Ohio
 is likewise overturned. The Governor and
 the whole Democratic State ticket are
 elected by a plurality of approximately
 40,000. The Democrats will control both
 houses of the